

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first full paragraph on Page 11 as follows:

Because network topology may change as components are added, removed or powered up and down on networks, one embodiment of packet analyzer 226 also records the arrival time of the received network packets in the distribution table. Whenever the source address of the received network packet has already been noted in the distribution table, packet analyzer 226 only updates the arrival time. Thus, the time recorded in the distribution table indicates the last time that SI bridge 210 receives a network packet from a particular NIC. Then packet analyzer 226 can periodically purge entries in the distribution table that have remained unchanged for more than a predetermined amount of time. Alternatively, packet analyzer can compile statistics of the network packets that it analyzes, such as ~~the frequency of a~~ the frequency in which a particular NIC sends a packet to SI bridge 210, and dynamically modifies its purging mechanism based on such compiled statistics.